

What You Need to Know About Your Albumin Eye Drops

Information for patients and families

Remember:

- ✓ Order your eye drops from the Princess Margaret Outpatient Pharmacy 14 business days before you need them. They take 7 to 10 business days to make.
- ✓ Keep eye drops in the freezer until the first time you use them. Once you open a bottle, you can keep it in the refrigerator or at room temperature for up to 24 hours. You must use a new bottle every day.
- ✓ Don't let anyone else use your eye drops. They are made just for you.

My albumin eye drops will be ready on:

The Outpatient Pharmacy at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre will call you to let you know when they are ready.

You must pick up your eye drops.

They can't be delivered to you because they must be kept frozen.



What are albumin eye drops?

Albumin eye drops help treat very dry eyes when other eye products don't work. Albumin is a protein that is found in your blood.

How can I order albumin eye drops?

You need a prescription from your doctor to order albumin eye drops. Bring your prescription to the Princess Margaret Outpatient Pharmacy on the main floor of Princess Margaret Cancer Centre. We make albumin eye drops just for you. They cannot be used by anyone else.

How long does it take to make my albumin eye drops?

It takes about 7 to 10 business days to make your albumin eye drops. Bring your prescription to the pharmacy 14 business days before you need them. This will give us time to get your eye drops ready.

Why does it take so long to make albumin eye drops?

There are many steps we take to make sure your eye drops are safe and sterile (free of germs). After you bring in your prescription:

1. We order albumin from the blood bank and special albumin eye dropper bottles.



2. We receive the eye dropper bottles and send them to Toronto General Hospital so they can be sterilized. This takes about 2 days.



3. After they are sterilized, the bottles are sent to the Princess Margaret Inpatient Pharmacy (another pharmacy in the hospital).



4. The Inpatient Pharmacy staff carefully makes the eye drops to make sure the drops are clean and safe to use.



5. The Inpatient Pharmacy staff calls us to let us know the albumin eye drops are ready to pick up.



6. We do a final check at the Outpatient Pharmacy before we call you to pick up your drops.

You must pick up your eye drops. They can't be delivered to you because they must be kept frozen.

How do I store my albumin eye drops at home?

Keep your albumin eye drops in the freezer until the first time you use them. You must thaw the bottle before using it. Thaw only one bottle a day. Once you open the bottle, you can keep it in the refrigerator or at room temperature for up to 24 hours. You must use a new bottle every day.

Albumin eye drops are good for 40 days from when they are made. Please check the expiry date on your eye dropper bottles.

How can I order more albumin eye drops?

Please call the Princess Margaret Outpatient Pharmacy at 416 946 6593 at least 14 business days before you need more eye drops.

Visit www.uhnpatienteducation.ca for more health information.

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